



4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

December 14, 1983

Cotter Corporation Mr. W. D. Hester P. O. Box 700 Nucla, Colorado 81424

RE: Notice of Completion of
Exploratory Drilling and Mine
Site Inspection
EXP/019/012, ACT/019/006
Grand County, Utah

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your November 25, 1983 letter regarding completion of the exploratory drilling program in Grand County, Utah. Your letter meets the notice requirements of Rule M-3(5) of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975, Title 40-8, et seq, Utah Code Annotated, 1953. My recent inspection of this year's sites as well as previous year's work was rewarding. Thank you for the guided tour on Thursday, December 8, 1983. Your reclamation work this year is admirable and the use of the 930 CAT loader w/2 1/2 yard bucket and ripper teeth or the Massey Industrial tractor w/1/2 yard bucket and landscape scraper made a good combination producing the desired effect of introducing micro-environments suitable for seed germination.

Judging from the other work performed in 1980 you may have a problem in some areas with meeting revegetation standards. Some sites had excellent growth success while others were still practically barren. It would be adviseable to make an inventory of those older sites which did not show signs of regrowth and try reseeding one more time, either this coming spring or next fall.

As we discussed on site the existing drainage through the mine site area has been encroached upon by the expansion of the waste rock piles. Evidence of mass wastage by storm event precipitation has washed this material down channel and off site. Although it certainly aides the storage capacity of the dumps it is not the desired practice preferred. The Division requests that the wash channel be widened to accomodate the normal storm events and prevent reoccurrence of waste rock depletion.

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Two methods may be useful to employ to accomplish the widening: the dumps at the narrowest point ought to be either pulled/pushed back several yards or the material replaced in the old mine rooms: the larger more difficult to remove pile(s) may be adequately protected by the use of rip-rap provided by the numerous canyon rockfalls nearby. An assessment of the size of the storm events possible in the canyon including the amount of water which passes by the dumps will allow proper sizing of the boulders needed. Additional "development" of the wash channel itself may also help alleviate the present problem e.g. deepening. Work on this situation cannot begin too soon.

Again let me say that overall the work performed on reclamation at the minesite is in quite good order and with some additional attention in the near future it would be exemplary. If there are any other areas in which I may be able to help, please let me know.

Sincerely

THOMAS N. TEXTING ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

TNT/jvb